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ZNY CCCCC ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1342
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 4152
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1964
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1829
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 2400
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
RHMFISS/CDR USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 2775

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASHGABAT 001056

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN, EEB

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/13/2017

TAGS: [EFIN TX](#)

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN: CITIBANK LOOKING FOR BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITIES

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires a.i. Sylvia Reed Curran for reasons 1.
4 (B) and (D).

11. (C) Two officials from Citibank are visiting Turkmenistan for annual client meetings: a Citibank Vice President and Senior Correspondent Banker from Citibank's Bank Services Group and a Relationship Manager of Citibank's Central Asia and Transcaucasia Department. Citibank has provided money transfer services for the Central Bank and Vneshekonombank since Turkmenistan's independence. The Citibank officials said that, during this trip, their counterparts from Turkmenistan organizations avoided discussing statistics or giving specific figures. However, these Turkmen officials noted the country's eagerness to expand ties with international companies and asked for training programs. Citibank would like to explore opportunities to provide future training to Turkmenistan in electronic payment systems, credit services, and debt services.

12. (C) COMMENT: These observations support post's experiences with Turkmenistan's financial community since the beginning of this summer. Turkmenistan appears to want to open up its markets to the world and accept assistance, but is not sure how to do so. Post encouraged Citibank to accept the invitation to put on some training programs as a way to deepen the relationship and have a foot in the door for future business opportunities. END COMMENT.
CURRAN